NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MANAGERS

OF THE

PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTION

FOR THE

INSTRUCTION OF THE BLIND.

PRESENTED TO THE CONTRIBUTORS MARCH 7, 1842.

PHILADELPHIA:
J. CRISSY, PRINTER, NO. 4 MINOR STREET.
1842.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
This project is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries

https://archive.org/details/annualreportotma00penn_14

REPORT.

The Managers of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind, respectfully present to the Contributors their Report for the year which has just closed.

The number of pupils at present in the Institution is 59; of these 43 are from Pennsylvania, 8 from Maryland, 1 from Delaware, 1 from South Carolina, 1 from Georgia, and 1 from the District of Columbia. Their names are given in the annexed list. The pupils from South Carolina and Georgia, and one of those from Pennsylvania are supported by their friends.

The income during the past year, exclusive of that from the "Birch Legacy," has been $13,810 74, and the expenditures $15,607 20, presenting a deficiency to be supplied from the legacy fund, of $1,796 46. The income of this fund during the past year has fallen to $7,108 68, and must undergo a further reduction from the nature of the investments in which the fund was received from our benefactor. The surplus of the receipts from the "Birch Legacy" fund, over the deficit in the general account, was last year $5,102 09, and is this year $5,414 31. The particulars of the expenditures and receipts upon both accounts, will be found in the reports of the Treasurer, hereto appended.

Important changes have been made during the past year in the internal organization of the Institution, and others are in progress. After a thorough examination of the condition of the instruction, the Board determined to appoint a Principal Teacher, and called Mr. D. B. Tower, of Boston, to fill the situation. This gentleman was favorably known at home as one of the most efficient teachers of the Public Grammar Schools, and his zeal and ability have already been fully shown in the new sphere of action in our Institution. In December last Mr. E. C. Jones resigned his place of Assistant Teacher, with a view to devote himself exclusively to Theological studies. Under the advice of the Principal Teacher, the Board determined to provide a Male and Female Assistant, their joint salaries not to exceed, at present, that paid to the former Assistant Teacher. Mr. Hall Grandgent, of Philadelphia, was appointed to one of the places thus created, the other yet remains vacant. The other officers of the Institution remain the same as at the last report.

Before taking charge of the department of instruction, Mr. Tower, at the request of the Board, visited the Institutions for the instruction of the Blind, at Boston, Hartford, and New York, and made reports upon the results of his examination. During the Christmas vacation, he again visited the schools of New York and Boston. The results of these comparisons, and of the intimate knowledge, which Mr. Tower has obtained of the attainments and characters of our own pupils, and of the effect of the system of our School in its different departments, have been communicated to the Board, and have led to the impression, that our Institution may be reorganized upon a plan uniting greater efficiency, and economy, than its present arrangement. A Committee appointed to take the subject into consideration, has fully examined it, and presented a report, which leaves no doubt of the expediency and practicability of a re-organization. A committee of organization has accordingly been directed to carry out these views, and should the new Board entertain

the same opinions with us, a plan for a new organization of the Institution, to take effect from the commencement of the School year, will be presented for their consideration.

Respectfully submitted

On behalf of the Board of Managers, by

BENJ. W. RICHARDS, Vice-President.

T. Mason Mitchell, Sec'ry.

LIST OF PUPILS IN THE INSTITUTION,

MARCH 1, 1842.

Names.	Where from.		When admitted.
Sarah Marsh,	Philadelphia City,	1833.	March 25th.
Theodore Myers,	do.		do.
Mary Ann Mallett,	Philadelphia County,		April 29th.
William Hatz,	Lancaster County,		June 3d.
Beniah Parvin,	Newcastle, Del.		July 16th.
John B. Martindale,	Charleston, S. C.		Nov. 6th.
Richard Guyn,	Bucks County,	1834.	April 12th.
Mary E. Nuniveller,	Philadelphia County,		May 12th.
Hannah Gillem,	Franklin County		May 16th.
Eli Whelan,	Lancaster,		June 24th.
Hannah Newborough,	Chester County,		Sept. 6th.
Joseph Ramsey,	Philadelphia County,		Nov. 15th.
Elizabeth Solomon,	Bucks County,	1835.	May 13th.
Philip Feterow,	York County,		Sept. 12th.
Mary E. Wiley,	Maryland,		Sept. 8th.
Mary V. Roberts,	Philadelphia County,		Nov. 28th.
Rachel Laird,	Centre County,		April 22d.
Jonathan Dyer,	Bucks County,	1836.	April 23d.
Samuel Pyle,	Philadelphia City,		Nov. 1st.
Matilda Hankins,	New Jersey,		Nov. 23d.
Elizabeth Adolph,	Philadelphia Co.,	1837.	Jan. 20th.
John Burris,	do.		Feb. 1st.
Sarah Ann Dandy,	New Jersey,		April 11th.
William Keim,	Philadelphia County,		April 13th.
Patrick Kelly,	do.		April 22d.
Elizabeth A. Fennimore,	New Jersey,		May 4th.
Maria Gill,	Philadelphia,		May 25th.
Samuel McGiffin,	Huntington County,		May 30th.
Mary Donelly,	Philadelphia,		June 16th.
John Robinson,	Lancaster County,		March 6th.

Names.	Where from.		When admitted.
Henry Boyer,	Berks County,		Oct. 26th.
Marcia Finney,	Luzerne County,		Nov. 7th.
Jacob Berry,	Chester County,		Sept. 14th.
George Laws,	Philadelphia,	1838.	Jan. 2d.
Charles Kandel,	Schuylkill County,		Jan. 5th.
Anne Fithian,	Philadelphia,		March 15th.
Emma Westby,	do.		April 16th.
John Shule,	Baltimore,		May 22d.
Rebecca E. Laffeur,	do.		do.
Maria Jones,	Philadelphia,		June 20th.
Elvina Wasley,	do.		Sept. 4th.
Hugh Coyle,	do.		Nov. 3d.
Margaret Turner,	Baltimore,	1839.	March 12th.
George Lafferty,	Philadelphia County,		August 5th.
John Lawrence,	Salem County, N. J.		Sept. 17th.
John Lankford,	Annapolis, Md.	1840.	June 7th.
John Jones,	Berlin, Md.		Oct. 23d.
M. Bennis Clark,	Philadelphia,		Nov. 5th.
Sarah E. Whittington,	Baltimore,		Nov. 8th.
John James,	Allegheny Town,		Dec. 14th.
Hugh McClaen,	Mauch Chunk,	1841.	Jan. 8th.
Bartimeas Crane,	Georgia,		March 1st.
Maria Foote,	Washington, D. C.		May 1st.
John F. Wendell,	Luzerne Co., Pa.		June 4th.
James A. Porter,	Perry Co.		July 7th.
Wm. R. Fortescue,	Philadelphia,		July 16th.
Sarah Lynch,	Hagerstown, Md.		July 22d.
Cyrus Dubbs,	Lebanon, Pa.		Sept. 20th.
David Ireland,	Philadelphia,		Dec. 6th.

Dr. *Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind, with Oliver Fuller, Treasurer.* Cr.

1841.		
To am't rec'd from State of New Jersey,		$922 20
Maryland,		1,403 12
Delaware,		433 33
Pennsylvania,		8,094 40
To premium on Maryland Funds,		1 00
To amount from Pay Pupils,		550 00
Annual contributions,		265 35
Donations,		30 77
Exhibitions,		177 60
Sales of merchandise,		1,698 06
Subscribers to Student's Mag.		72 00
Institution at Paris,		76 00
To amount of order, No. 431, drawn twice,		86 91
from Birch Legacy by order of the Board,		10,000 00
To balance due Treasurer,		8,018 99

1841.		
March 1, By balance due the Treasurer, as per last acc't,		$6,220 53
Bond & Mortgage to J. Bohlen, Esq. trustee,		10,000 00
Amount paid on order J. K. Kane, Chairman Committee in the case Reed vs. Stanley,		200 00
Orders drawn by the Board and chargeable as follows: viz.		
1. Salaries,	$5,024 46	
2. School,	402 12	
3. Manufacturing,	1,656 40	
4. Printing,	724 10	
5. Building,	876 15	
6. Clothing,	721 65	
7. Special,	2,765 63	
8. Maintenance,	3,238 69	
		15,409 20
The items making the sum of $2,765 63, charged as "Special" (7) are as follows, viz:		
Interest on bond for $10,000 6½ mos.	325 00	
Insurance 36 00, labour 38 50, filterer 40 00,	114 50	
Funeral of N. Thompson, 36 57, maps 60 70,	97 07	
Fuel and stoves 585 65, advertising 11 75,	597 40	
Furniture, tin, queen's and hardware and sheeting,	385 43	
Printing & Binding Annual Report,	143 06	

Expenses of pupils on excursions,	87 52	
Cupping and bleeding 47 50, medicines, 103 97, ...	151 47	
Washing 276 89, whitewashing, 59 50, ...	336 39	
Expenses, Mr. Tower to Boston, 29 25, water rent for 1841 and 1842, $140, ...	169 25	
For gymnastic exercises 19 35, omnibus and coach hire 35 62, .	54 97	
Sundry small expenses at the Institution, ...	303 57	
	$2,765 63	
		31,829 73
1842. March 1, By balance due the Treasurer, . . .		$8,018 99

[E. E.] OLIVER FULLER,
Treasurer.

Examined and found correct, $31,829 73

B. W. RICHARDS,
ALBERT G. WATERMAN,
Committee of Finance.

TREASURER'S REPORT ON THE BIRCH FUND.

The undersigned, agreeably to the Resolution of February 14, 1842, requesting the Treasurer "to present a detailed account of the proceeds of the Birch Fund," Reports, that,

The amount of proceeds of Real Estate, bequeathed by Mr. Birch, and realized previous to October 30, 1839, at which time the Securities were handed over by the Executors, was, - - - - $5,290 58

The income and receipts from October 30, 1839, to March 1, 1841, was - - 11,322 62

The income for the year ending March 1, 1842, was - - - - 7,108 68

The sum of $5000, was also received in payment of Certificate of Stocks from the State of Pennsylvania, - - - 5,000 00

$28,721 88

Of this sum, $10,000 was used in extinguishing the Mortgage on the Buildings of the Institution, - - - 10,000 00

Leaving to the credit of the Fund, on the Books $18,721 88

The market value of the Securities on 28th February last, was - - - $76,150 75

The estimated income of the year, ending March 1, 1843, is - - - $4,202 00

and may prove to be much less than this sum.

Very respectfully,

OLIVER FULLER, Treasurer.

P. S. Since the above Report was written, it has been ascertained that the American Insurance Company will declare no Dividend this spring. The income of the "Birch Fund," will not, therefore, probably amount to $3,600 for the current year.

Oliver Fuller, Treasurer of the "Birch Legacy."

1841.		DR.	
March 1,	To	balance,	$11,322 62
5,		Interest on J. Hughes' bond,	30 00
10,		do. H. S. Tanner's bond,	180 00
April 1,		do. Lehigh Coal and Navigation Comp'y,	772 98
12,		Loan of March 2, 1840, rec'd,	5,000 00
		Interest on March loan, 10 days,	333 33
16,		Dividend of American Fire Insurance Co.	658 35
24,		Interest of bond L. Brechemin,	45 00
May 6,		do. C. & S. Kearney,	22 50
15,		Dividend of Germ. & P. Turnpike Co.	4 80
		do. C. H. & S. H. Turnpike Co.	79 80
		do. Chel. & W. G. Turnpike Co. (Nov.)	48 00
		do. do. do.	60 80
28,		Interest on bond J. Scheidel,	60 00
July 2,		do. Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co.	772 98
12,		Dividend Union Insurance Co. (Jan'y)	57 00
		do. do.	57 00
21,		Dividend Philad'a & Lancaster Turnpike Co.	324 00
		Premium on $54 in specie, 3 per ct.	1 62
Aug. 13,		Interest on F. Brown's mortgage,	600 00
14,		do. J. Hughes' bond,	30 00
Sept. 4,		do. Glenn & Johnson's mortgage,	132 00
		Dividend on Philad'a, Wilmington & Baltimore R.R.	52 50
		Interest on Ditto, (loan)	10 50
7,		do. Pennsylv'a State Loan,	75 00
		Premium on specie, 3 per cent.,	2 25
14,		Interest on H. S. Tanner's bond,	180 00
Oct. 2,		do. Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co.	772 98
15,		Dividend of American Fire Insurance Co.	548 62
26,		Interest on bond L. Brechemin,	45 00
27,		do. do. J. Scheidel,	60 00
Nov. 3,		do. do. C. & S. Kearney,	22 50
7,		Dividend of Germantown & P. Turnp. Co.	4 50
		do. Chest. Hill & Sp. House Turnp. Co.	73 50
1842.			
Jan'y 10,		do. Chelt. & W. G. Turnp. Co.	68 80
		Interest on Glenn & Johnson's mortgage,	132 00
12,		Dividend of Union Insurance Company,	57 00
Feb'y 3,		Interest on J. Hughes' bond,	30 00
15,		do. F. Brown's mortgage,	600 00
17,		do. Pennsylv'a State Loan,	75 00
		Premium on specie, 4½ per cent.,	3 27
21,		Interest on Franklin Institute Loan,	25 00
			$23,431 30

1841.	CR.	
April 16,	By cash, to Treasurer of Institution, for instruction of the blind, applied to payment of bond and mortgage held by John Bohlen, Esq. trustee,	10,000 00
1842.		
March 1,	To balance,	$13,431 30

OLIVER FULLER,
Treasurer "Birch Legacy."

Philad'a, March 1, 1842.

The Committee appointed at the last meeting of the late Board to examine the accounts of the Treasurer relating to the "Birch Legacy," &c.,

REPORT:

That they have faithfully examined the account referred to them, and find the same correct, both as to charge and discharge; the balance in the Treasurer's hands at the closing thereof being that stated in said account, $13,431,30.

The Committee have further inspected the evidences of property, including certificates in the possession of the Committee of Finance, and report thereon, that they consist of the same items as are set forth in the Report of Messrs. Price and others, a special Committee of the Board, made February 27, 1841.

The Committee report in addition, that the moneys in the Treasurer's hands, having been withdrawn from the Bank of Pennsylvania in anticipation of the late failure of that Institution, have not since been placed in special deposite. It will be for the Board to consider, whether the existing circumstances of most of the Banking Institutions of Philadelphia make it proper to modify in any degree, the By-Law requiring the moneys of the Institution to be deposited in a Chartered Institution. It is proper to add, that the present Treasurer, for the purpose of securing the funds of the Corporation as they stand at this time, has executed a Bond in the sum of $5000, which the Committee present herewith, and has also made a mortgage, the Certificate of the record of which accompanies the Bond.

Respectfully submitted.

J. K. KANE,
JOHN U. FRALEY,
J. FRANCIS FISHER.

April 6th, 1842.

At the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Contributors to the "PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTION FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF THE BLIND" held at the Institution, March 7th, 1842,

James Taylor, Esq., was called to Preside—and *Jacob Snider*, Jr., appointed Secretary.

The Annual Report of the Board of Managers for the past year, with the accounts of the Treasurer, embracing receipts and general expenditures, and the statements of receipts from the "BIRCH LEGACY," to March 1st, 1842, were read and accepted.

On motion of *Mr. Snider*, it was

Resolved,—That the Board of Managers be authorized, if they shall see fit, to annex a salary to the offices of the Recording Secretary, and Treasurer, or either of them, and to receive security for the performance of the duties thereof.

On motion of *Dr. Patterson* it was

Resolved,—That the Annual Report now submitted, with the accompanying accounts, and the Report of the Committee of Finance of the Managers, thereon, be referred to the Board of Managers, to be printed for distribution.

The Meeting then proceeded to an election of Officers for the ensuing year. Messrs. *J. K. Kane* and *A. D. Bache*, were appointed Tellers, and reported that the following named gentlemen were unanimously elected officers for 1842.

PRESIDENT.

NATHAN DUNN.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

Benjamin W. Richards,
Robert M. Patterson, M. D.,
Richard Price,
A. Dallas Bache, LL. D.

TREASURER.

OLIVER FULLER.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

J. FRANCIS FISHER.

RECORDING SECRETARY.

HENRY W. SAFFORD.

CONSULTING PHYSICIAN.

CHARLES D. MEIGS, M. D.

VISITING PHYSICIANS.

W. Poyntell Johnson, M. D., William Pepper, M. D.

MANAGERS.

John U. Fraley,	Thomas S. Kirkbride, M. D.
John K. Kane,	J. Mason Mitchell,
Albert G. Waterman,	Peter McCall,
Franklin Peale,	Henry M. Watts,
George Laws,	Hon. Edward King,
Samuel Breck,	Frederick Fraley.

When the Meeting adjourned.

JAMES TAYLOR, Chairman.

JACOB SNIDER, Jr., Sec'ry.

At the first Meeting of the Board of Directors, the following Standing Committees were appointed for the ensuing year.

Standing Committees of the Board for 1842–3.

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE.

Samuel Breck,
John K. Kane,
Henry M. Watts.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Albert G. Waterman,
Richard Price,
Oliver Fuller,
Thos. S. Kirkbride,
T. Mason Mitchell.

COMMITTEE OF INSTRUCTION.

A. Dallas Bache,
Robt. M. Patterson,
Benj. W. Richards,
J. Francis Fisher,
Edward King,
Peter McCall.

COMMITTEE OF ADMISSION AND DISCHARGE.

Frederick Fraley,
Franklin Peale,
Henry W. Safford.

LADIES' COMMITTEE.

Mrs. R. Price,
" C. D. Meigs,
" B. W. Richards,
" R. M. Patterson,
" J. K. Kane,
" A. G. Waterman.

BOOKS

Published by the "Pennsylvania Institution for the instruction of the blind."

Gospel of Mark. 160 pages, 4to. 1833.

Early Days of George Washington. 71 pages, 8vo. 1834.

Die Ostereier, (German.) 84 pages, folio cap. 1838.

Ruth and Esther. 50 pages, folio cap. 1838.

Guide to Spelling. 86 pages, folio cap. 1838.

Proverbs of Solomon. 96 pages, folio cap. 1838.

Auswahl, (German.) 44 pages, folio cap. 1839.

Select Library for the Blind. 5 vols., 100 pages each, folio cap. 1839.

Students' Magazine, (periodical.) 3 vols., 100 pages each, folio cap. 1838, 1839, and 1840.

French verbs. 25 pages, full size cap sheet.

Church Music. 94 pages, full size cap sheet. 1840.

Psalms and Hymns. 68 pages, full size cap sheet. 1840.

This volume contains one hundred and fifty Psalms and Hymns, most commonly used, and appropriate for the blind; adapted to the selection of Church Music. The second volume of Church Music is in the press, and will be of the same size and number of pages as the first volume.

ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

In every case of application for the admission of pupils into the "Pennsylvania Institution for the instruction of the Blind," answers are to be made in writing to the following questions; to which the attestation of some respectable Physician or Clergyman, and of one or more individuals of respectability, to whom the applicant is known, should be subjoined. Pupils

are not, in general, admitted into the Institution, under the age of *seven* nor over *sixteen* years. If the requisite answers be forwarded to the Institution, the relatives or friends of the applicant will be informed whether he or she shall be admitted, and if so, at what time, and upon what terms. The agreement in writing, annexed hereto, must, in all cases, be entered into, at the time of admission, by the parent, guardian, or other friend of the pupil, to receive him or her back, whenever the Board of Managers may find it necessary to direct the removal of the pupil, for whatever cause, from the Institution.

The Legislatures of the States of Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, and Maryland have made provision for the education of portions of the indigent blind, residing in their several States. Applicants for the bounty of either of the above-named Commonwealths, must conform to the requisitions and acts of their respective Legislatures, before they can be admitted.

Questions, to be carefully and correctly answered.

1. What is the name of the applicant?
2. Where and when born? (the year, month, and day of his birth.)
3. What are the names of parents?
4. Are they at present living?
5. Where do they reside?
6. What is the nearest post-town to direct to?
7. Is totally blind?
8. If not, what degree of vision does possess?
9. Was born blind?
10. If not, at what period did become blind?
11. What was the cause of blindness?
12. Is of sound health, and of sufficient mental and bodily capacity to receive instruction?
13. Has the full use of hands and fingers?
14. Has ever received any instruction, and what sort?

15. In what way has been employed?

16. Have proper medical efforts been used to restore sight?

17. Is the blindness deemed incurable?

18. Has ever been subject to fits, or ever had, or has now, any scrofulous, cutaneous, or other disorder, which might be communicated to the other pupils?

19. What has been the general character or moral conduct and disposition of the applicant?

20. Is of a kind and docile temper?

21. Has any peculiarities of disposition?

22. Has ever strolled about, to obtain a livelihood?

23. Was brought up in the house of parents or friends, and by whom?

24. What are the present pecuniary means of the parents, or those relatives or friends, having charge of the applicant?

25. Could they pay any, and what amount annually, towards support and education?

26. Of what religion are the applicants, or their parents or friends, and to what place of worship do they desire their to go?

27. Have they other children blind? and if so, state the cause of blindness.

Certificate, to be signed by individuals who know, and recommend the applicant for admission.

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify, from personal knowledge of the above applicant, and the circumstances of relatives and friends, that the answers to the foregoing questions are true.

Witness our hands, this day of 184

N. B. The subscribing parties to the above are requested to add their abodes and occupations.

Agreement to be executed upon Admission being granted to the Applicant.

The undersigned hereby engages to receive back from "The Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind," whenever shall be removed from the same, either from having been sufficiently instructed, or for misconduct, or any other cause; and also, to furnish the requisite clothing prescribed by the Board of Managers, at the time of entrance, and during continuance in the Institution.

Witness hand , this day of 184

Witness at signing and delivery.

Parent, Guardian, or friend, as surety.